The Wrecker

by Takaido Akemi

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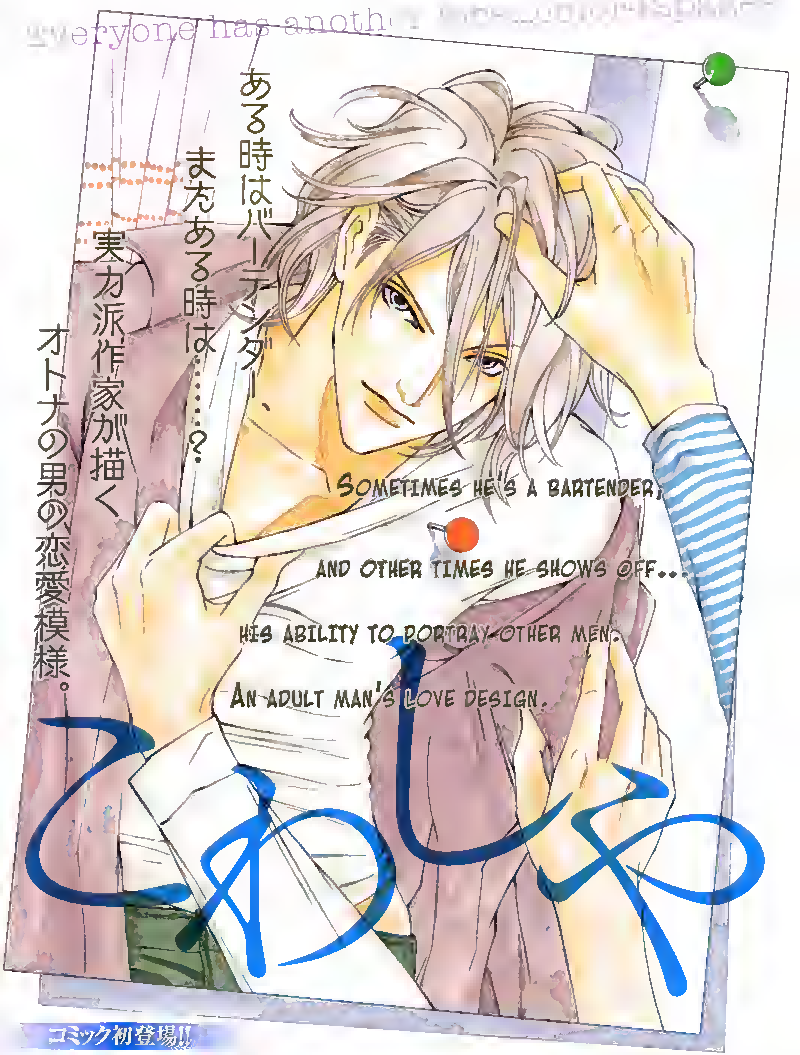
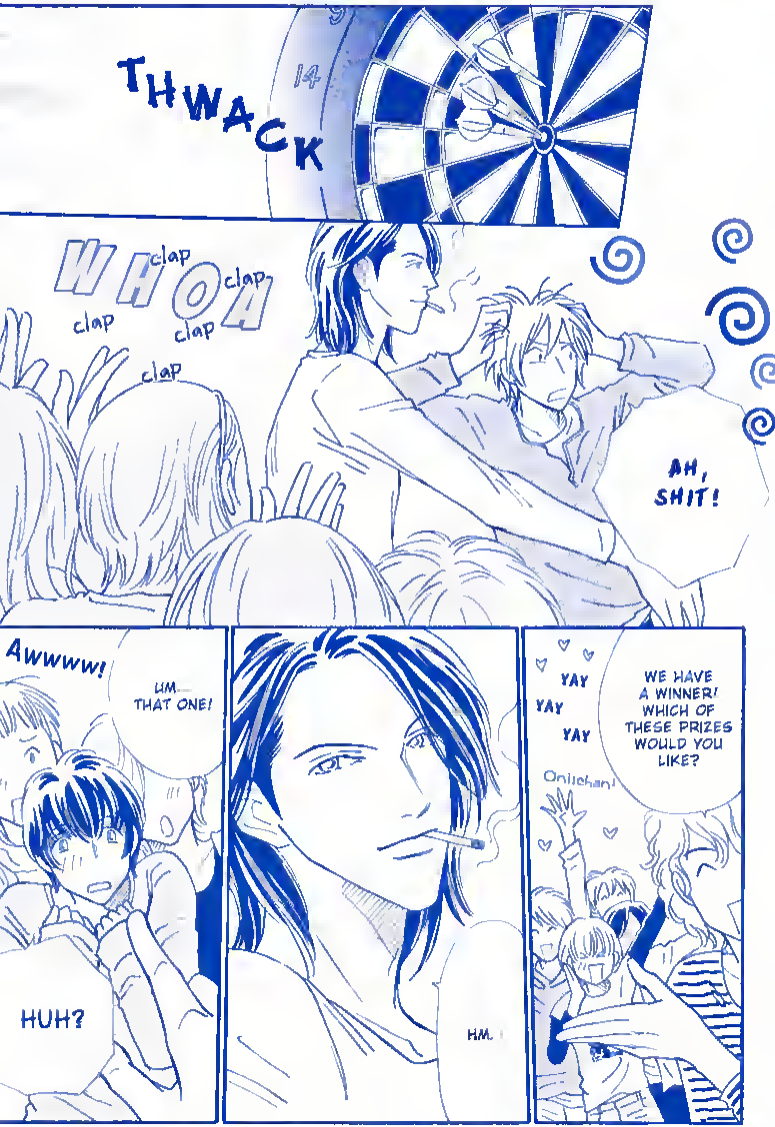
The Moon in a Box Scanlations

everyone has anoth



コミック初登場!!

高井戸あけみ


THWACK
14
WHOA
clap
clap
clap
clap
clap
AH, SHIT!
Awwww!
UM... THAT ONE!
HUH?
HM.
YAY
YAY
YAY
WE HAVE A WINNER! WHICH OF THESE PRIZES WOULD YOU LIKE?
Onichan!

Hotel Ichiko
Hotel
P
whistle
whistle
MMNNN!
HEY, WAIT A MINUTE!
SHOVE
CONGRATULATIONS!
slide
ARE YOU STILL SAYING THAT STUFF?
SERIOUSLY.
THIS IS KIND OF DANGEROUS...
BECAUSE... BECAUSE, MY BOYFRIEND'S A REALLY JEALOUS PERSON--!
KISS♥
YAH!
HE ALWAYS SAYS IF I CHEAT ON HIM, HE'LL LEAVE ME.
BUT...
peel off
HEY, STOP--!

SO?
SHOULD I STOP?
TODAY IS HIS DAUGHTER'S BIRTHDAY OR SOMETHING...
BUT WE-EKENDS ARE FAMILY TIME!
mumble mumble
HAHA
BUT HE'S MISSING OUT ON AN ENJOYABLE WEEKEND WITH YOU,
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE THIS CUTE.
perk
AH!
HA
...BUT...
OH!
STOP...!
BUT YOU'RE FEELING SO MUCH OVER THERE
AH!
YES...
SQUEEZE

HA
HAA
AH
HA
AAAH!
A TEXT?
sending message
NO.
I'm leaving.
beep
TIME TO GO.
YEP.
I DON'T KNOW. .
SHALL WE MEET AGAIN?
Heh
Uh... wanna exchange phone numbers?

chek
chek
chek
chek
THERE THEY ARE... OKAY--!
chek
chek
chek
NICE--! AS EXPECTED
chek
HM. NOW, WITH MORE PASSION!
YOU SHOULDN'T CHEAT.

NN Detective Agency
HERE, YOUR SHARE FROM THIS TIME
No cheating!
Control yourself!
EEEEHHH?
This is my job, even though you might say it's a casual, part-time job
IT SEEMS THOSE PHOTOS DID THE TRICK
THAT WAS QUICK IT'S OVER ALREADY?
WE DO PROVIDE WRECKING SERVICES, BUT...
Most of our jobs are investigations of infidelity or missing persons cases, but...
Depending on the client we sometimes offer a "special course..."
This guy's a customer at the place where I'm a bartender
He's the president (but it's a one-man shop)

When the target shifts his interest to me, he will even leave the original client
and because of this, the case gets dragged out and can become quite tiresome
But such easy assignments
are rare
Lately, men cheating on their wives, fearing exposure, come to us in a panic
urgently wanting to get rid of their lovers and they pay a pretty penny for it
WHAT ABOUT A PHONE?
AS ALWAYS, KEEP YOUR CELL PHONE ON WHEN YOU'RE ON DUTY. I MIGHT NEED TO CALL YOU A NUMBER OF TIMES.
BUT THROW IT AWAY WHEN THE ASSIGNMENT IS OVER.
IT'LL BE TIME FOR MY APPOINTMENT SOON.
A NEW CLIENT IS COMING. SO SIT IN THE BACK ROOM AND LISTEN IN

STAFF
Only one
CUP RAMEN
THANKS FOR YOUR PATRONAGE. OUR MOST HIGHLY-QUALIFIED STAFF WILL BE DEPLOYED ON YOUR BEHALF.
...YES, YOU PERFORMED THE BACKGROUND CHECK ON THE WIFE OF AN ACQUAINTANCE,
AND I'D LIKE YOU TO UNDERTAKE SOMETHING SIMILAR FOR ME...
YES. THE TRUTH IS, MY LOVER IS A KOUHAI AT WORK NAMED KAMIMURA... A MAN.
AS IS NATURAL IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE'VE KEPT OUR RELATIONSHIP A COMPLETE SECRET, BUT...
I'M ALREADY TURNING THIRTY THIS YEAR. AS THINGS STAND, I DON'T SEE A FUTURE WITH HIM.
AND NOW MY BOSS HAS RECOMMENDED A WIFE TO ME.
HIS OFFER SEEMS LIKE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO DRAW THE LINE.

THAT'S RIGHT. HE ABSOLUTELY DOESN'T WANT TO END IT...
I SEE... YOU WEREN'T ABLE TO SETTLE THINGS THROUGH DISCUSSION.
BUT... FOR THE SAKE OF HIS FUTURE TOO, THIS IS A GOOD OPPORTUNITY... THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.
SLOSH
CUP
MEN

YO
BAR
Spain
BIG

KAMIMURA KEIICHI. 27
EMPLOYED AT THE SAME PLANNING OFFICE AS OUR CLIENT, KAWAGUCHI-SAN.
HE'S A LITTLE TROUBLESOME. HE DOESN'T DRINK, HE DOESN'T SMOKE, AND HE DOESN'T GAMBLE.
HAVE WE BEGUN?
AH. I'VE BEEN LOOKING INTO IT FOR A WEEK.
GOOD EVENING.

Whistle
YOU'RE INTERESTED
BECAUSE HE'S KIND OF DIFFERENT-- LIKE A WOMAN OR SOMETHING?
Ta-da!
HIS REPUTATION IS HARDWORKING, HONEST, AND SINCERE... BUT--

THEY'VE GONE OUT TO LUNCH TWICE IN THE LAST WEEK, BUT THEY HAVEN'T MET OUTSIDE OF WORK.
SEEMS LIKE HE CAN SOMEHOW GET A PROMOTION FROM THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT TO THE MAIN OFFICE, SO HE'S WORKING OVERTIME EVERY DAY.
BUT RIGHT NOW IT LOOKS LIKE THEIR WORK IS VERY BUSY.
I hope so, for his sake!
AH, IT'S A PIECE OF CAKE, BUDDY.
FOR EVERYONE'S HAPPINESS, JUST GET ON WITH IT.
MEETING HIM BY CHANCE AT THE OFFICE IS THE MOST NATURAL, OR RATHER THE ONLY WAY.
THE CLIENT DOESN'T KNOW YOUR FACE, SO IT SHOULD BE EASY TO DO.
ANYWAY, EVERY DAY HE'S TIRED, SO HE GOES STRAIGHT HOME.
YEAH, AND WHERE DO I COME IN?
HOW AM I GOING TO MANAGE TO MEET HIM AT HIS WORK?
IMPOS-SIBLE
.. TO THE OPENING OF THE HOTEL!
I WANT TO GO...
I WONDER IF IT'S GONNA BE DRAWN OUT THIS TIME

I'LL LEAVE IT UP TO YOU.
squeak
I'm on my way.
squeak
Good work today

HUNKY GARBAGE MAN!
OOOH!!
THANKS.
OH, TRASH OVER HERE!
squeak

Ah—
Calmly going about his work
Workplace romances are difficult
There he is!
...
D
squeak
close

He's staring at him...
This is looking bad...
with those eyes

squeak
High-ranking employees and the cleaning guy don't normally have too much contact
Always delicate!
rumble
rumble
Now...
How should I make his acquaintance?
roll
roll
First of all, if I can get his attention—
Positive or negative...

PAPER JAM?
...I GOT THE PAPER OUT, BUT IT STILL WON'T WORK.
Close up, he looks much better than his picture.
clack
AH...
IT'S STUCK IN HERE, TOO.
THANKS...
snatch

He's prickly with outsiders
I see
NO PROB-LEM
He doesn't have any kids
If something was leaked from the planning department seems it would be bad
rumble rumble
complete
Is this a famous toy manufacturer?
He seems very stern and businesslike
Thanks for your hard work!
GRIN
Suspicion might fall on me as the garbage collector
If I myself were to say something however...
rattle

...YES... WELL, SORRY FOR INTERRUPTING...
...
rumble
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
AH, THESE WERE COMING OUT, AND IT BOTHERED ME, SO--
I WANTED TO STRAIGHTEN THEM OUT.
THESE ARE OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS..
DON'T TOUCH THEM.

SAKAIDA KOU. PLEASED TO MEET YOU. AND YOUR NAME IS?
I'm making him suspect me♡
SA-KAIDA-SAN...
Sakaida
YOU'RE NEW. MAY I HAVE YOUR BUSINESS CARD?
AH, I'M JUST A PART-TIMER.
...
IT'S GOOD MANNERS TO GIVE YOUR NAME...
...IT'S KAMI-MURA. NOW GET BACK TO WORK, PLEASE.

……
His suspicious glare is burning into my back

plip
plip

THE REASON IS OBVIOUS.
Ah? But haven't you finished the cleaning job?
I CAME BACK TO THE OFFICE
BUT THE DAY ISN'T OVER YET.
sneak
sneak
How's it going? No results, no stay in that new hotel
OH, GOOD... A WELL-PREPARED BUSINESSMAN. ARE YOU GOING TO THE STATION?
...I'VE ALREADY BEEN.
KAMIMURA-SAN

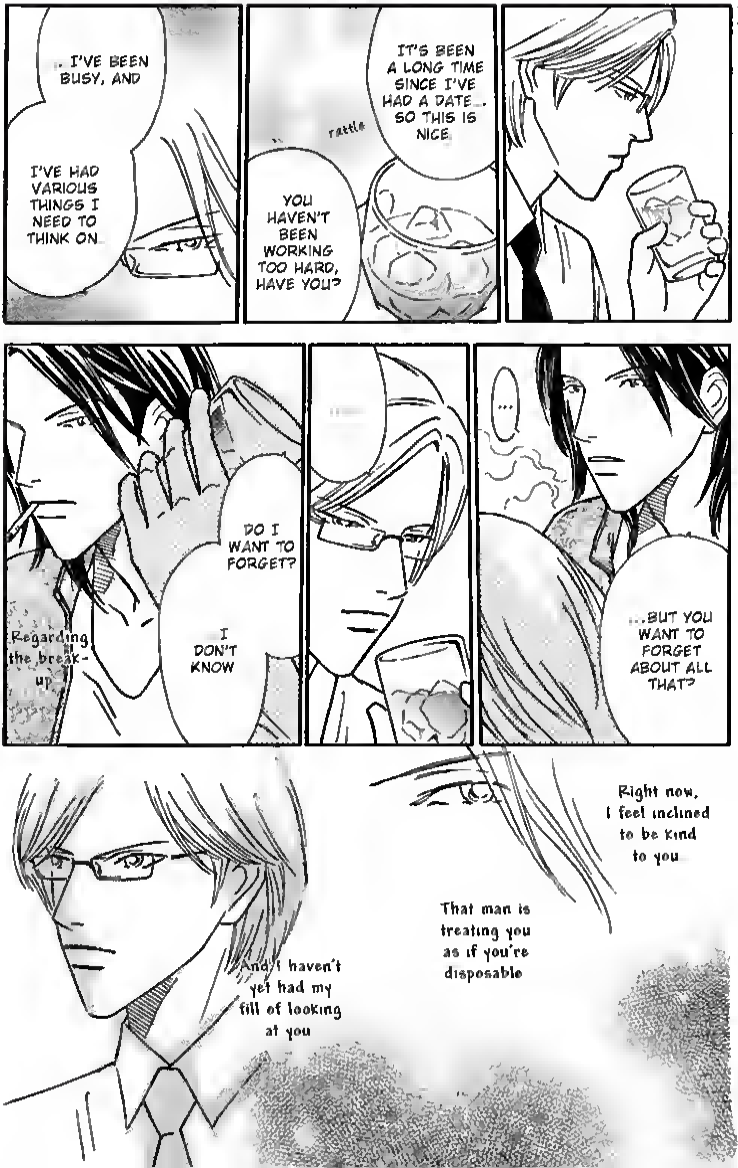
I WAS WAITING FOR YOU, YOU KNOW.
YOU LEFT SOMETHING BEHIND.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN REGULAR CLOTHES..?
suspicious
WHY ARE YOU WORKING AS A PART-TIME GARBAGE COLLECTOR?
THE WOMEN EMPLOYEES WERE TALKING ABOUT IT...
IT'S GREAT YOU'RE BEING TRANSFERRED TO THE HEAD OFFICE.

Though this job makes me appear to be a big liar,
I'm not really one
That's the truth
MY REAL JOB IS AS A BARTENDER.
BARTENDER?
That's a lie
WELL, AN ACQUAINTANCE GIVES ME A CALL WHEN THEY ARE SHORTHANDED.
The weeks, sometimes months, people put into maintaining love relationships,
and with a big lie, it all goes down the toilet
Outside of the assignments for the detective agency, I'm more or less honest.
Sakaida Kou is also my real name.
SHALL WE GO THERE NOW?
WHICH BAR IS IT?

.....
GOOD EVE-NING.
WHAT? AREN'T YOU OFF WORK TODAY?
I'M A CUST-OMER.
STOP BULL-SHITTING, AND COME LEND A HAND.
Oh, ♥ Kou-chaaan!

AM I CLEARED OF SUSPICION OF BEING A SPY?
gulp
IT WAS VERY EASY TO SEE YOU WERE TRYING TO ATTRACT MY ATTENTION.
Kanrai
clink
...YOUR STUPIDITY IS WAY TOO CONSPICUOUS FOR YOU TO BE A SPY.
STILL, DESPITE MY OBVIOUSNESS, I HAVE A GOOD SUCCESS RATE

YOU CONSIDER YOUR CURRENT STATE OF AFFAIRS TO BE A SUCCESS?
I SURE DO
BECAUSE YOU'VE SNAGGED ME?
SEEMS LIKE IT.
HEY
YO.
Welcome!
...ARE YOU KIDDING ME?


...I'VE BEEN BUSY, AND
I'VE HAD VARIOUS THINGS I NEED TO THINK ON
YOU HAVEN'T BEEN WORKING TOO HARD, HAVE YOU?
rattle
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE HAD A DATE... SO THIS IS NICE
Regarding the break-up
DO I WANT TO FORGET?
I DON'T KNOW
...
...BUT YOU WANT TO FORGET ABOUT ALL THAT?
Right now, I feel inclined to be kind to you
That man is treating you as if you're disposable
And I haven't yet had my fill of looking at you

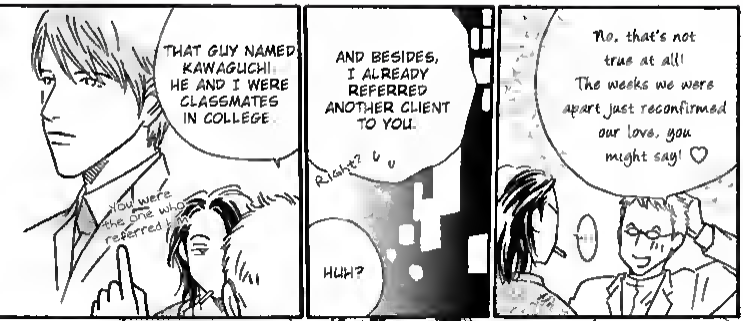
Just forget about—
—a guy like that

MM...
flinch
!!
HAH...

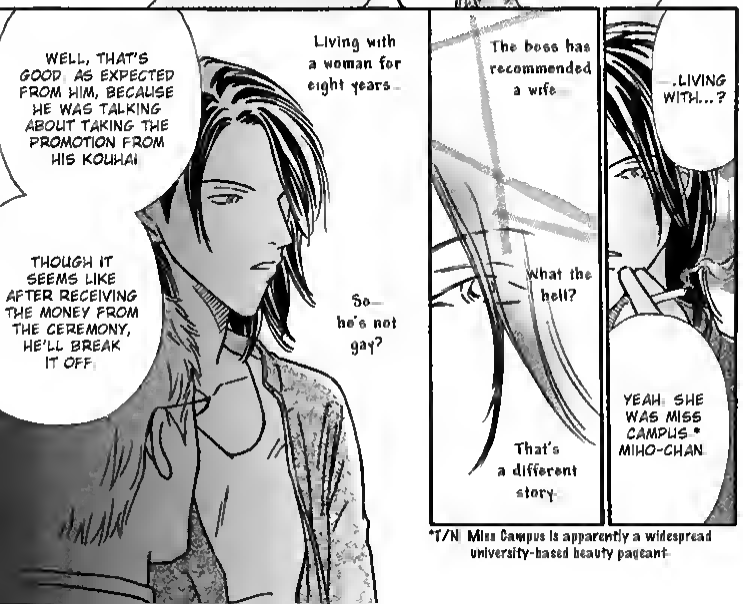
Loneliness is
a fever that
is easily passed from one person to another
FORGET HIM
Haa
Ha
Ha
Forget him
Forget him

CLOSE
beep
beep
In some respects, this man is...
different from other guys.
Huh?
What?
IT'S JUST THAT.. I'M FEELING A LITTLE DEJECTED.
HM..
Of course But, as expected! You did as planned!
...AH, I'LL BRING THE PICTURES WHEN I GO IN.

IT'S NOTHING...
That was just what I decided on my own...
He simply wouldn't betray his lover...
Huh?
See ya!
flirt
flirt
THAT BOY...
starts barks!
Ah ha ha ha ha!
He's laughing?
SO MY WORK WAS COMPLETELY POINTLESS...
BUT SHE SUSPECTED THE WOMEN AT MY OFFICE; SHE HAD NO CLUE AT ALL ABOUT THAT GUY...
WELL, ABOUT THAT MY WIFE WAS HAVING ME INVESTIGATED.
I WAS ANXIOUS, BECAUSE SHE SUSPECTED I WAS HAVING AN AFFAIR...
THANKS
FORGET THE THANKS... DIDN'T YOU JUST GO TO GREAT LENGTHS TO DUMP HIM?


THAT GUY NAMED KAWAGUCHI. HE AND I WERE CLASSMATES IN COLLEGE.
You were the one who referred him.
AND BESIDES, I ALREADY REFERRED ANOTHER CLIENT TO YOU.
Right? ∪ ∪
HUH?
No, that's not true at all! The weeks we were apart just reconfirmed our love, you might say! ♡

AFTER COLLEGE HE STARTED LIVING WITH A CLASSMATE OF OURS, IT'S ABOUT TIME HASN'T IT BEEN EIGHT YEARS ALREADY?
SEEMS HE HAD FINALLY DECIDED TO GET MARRIED
AND WANTED TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR SOME OF HIS POSSESSIONS...


WELL, THAT'S GOOD. AS EXPECTED FROM HIM, BECAUSE HE WAS TALKING ABOUT TAKING THE PROMOTION FROM HIS KOUHAI.
THOUGH IT SEEMS LIKE AFTER RECEIVING THE MONEY FROM THE CEREMONY, HE'LL BREAK IT OFF.
Living with a woman for eight years...
So— he's not gay?
The boss has recommended a wife.
What the hell?
That's a different story.
...LIVING WITH...?
YEAH. SHE WAS MISS CAMPUS * MIHO-CHAN.

*T/N: Miss Campus is apparently a widespread university-based beauty pageant.

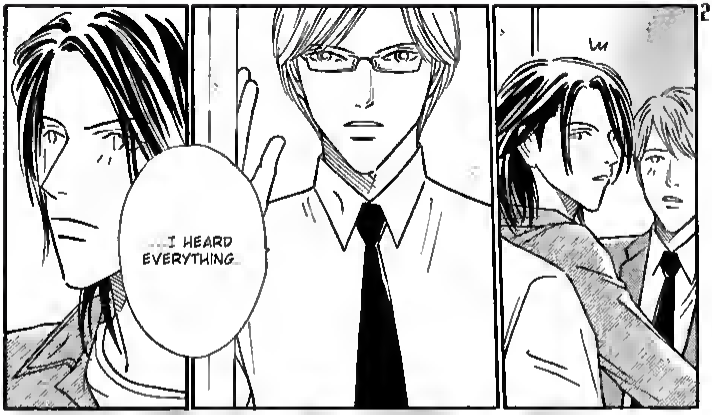
My lover is named
Kamimura...
What's wrong? Hello?
Having slept with him, I'm...
I've already sent them For the time being, send your progress report by text
How many times do I have to tell you? Promptness and courtesy is our firm's motto!
IT'S ME. DON'T SEND THOSE PHOTOS JUST YET...
WHAT...?

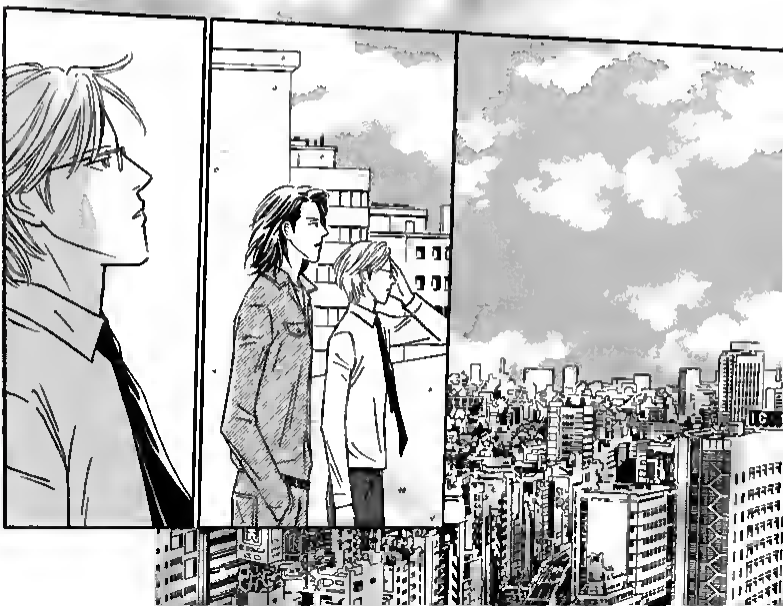
.. lonelier than ever
I have nowhere to go
I'm sorry..
—Shit.
Good work today!
Good night!

squeak
squeak
squeak
squeak
Reception 7
AS I SUSPECTED, HE'S GAY
Rec
I SAW HIM COMING OUT OF THAT BAR ONCE
WHAT?
NO, I'M NOT MISTAKEN. HE'S THE NEW PLANNER. KYOUMURA DEALT WITH HIM IN SCHOOL
HIS MORALS ARE LACKING... YOU SHOULD GET RID OF HIM
BECAUSE IN THE UPPER ECHELONS, THEY'RE ALL A BUNCH OF OLD-FASHIONED GEEZERS
IF IT GETS OUT, IT'LL AFFECT THE COMPANY'S IMAGE, SO YOU'D BETTER BE PROACTIVE

beep
beep
beep
HEY--! WHAT ARE YOU--?
SO MY PROMOTION IS DEFINITE..
WON'T IT RAISE THE TONE?
Hah..
GIVE IT BACK!
WHAAAAA
KER PLUNK

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? I'M THE CLIENT!
YOU'RE THE GUY IN THAT PHOTO.
YOU--
I'D SAY YOU'RE THE ONE LACKING IN MORALS.
GRAB
KAMIMURA-SAN IS ..
CREAK
COMPARED TO YOU, HE'S ..
I DON'T ACCEPT JOBS WITH THIS KIND OF PURPOSE.


...I HEARD EVERYTHING...



IS THAT...

IT FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT?

YEP. THAT'S IT.

THAT'S ALL FOR NOW.
ring ring ring
WHAT? A NEW CLIENT?
I'LL PASS.
AND SO, HONESTY FORMS THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN TRUTH AND LIES.
The End